

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently amended) Method for synthesizing endohedral fullerenes in an arc reactor by comprising burning off graphite electrodes, ~~characterized in that the burning off is carried out~~ in an atmosphere[[,]] which contains a reactive gas component, ~~consisting of~~ and providing said reactive gas component with at least two elements[[,]] in an inert gas or inert gas mixture.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the inert gas or the inert gas mixture ~~contains~~ includes 5% by volume to 60% by volume of reactive gas component.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the inert gas or the inert gas mixture ~~contains~~ includes 5% by volume to 10% by volume of reactive gas component.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the inert gas or inert gas mixture ~~contains~~ includes a nitrogen-containing or carbon-containing reactive gas component.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the reactive gas component ~~contains~~ includes of ammonia or methane or of other hydrocarbons.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the reactive gas component is supplied to the arc reactor from outside during the burning off or is generated in the arc reactor.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein graphite electrodes are used[[,]] which [[I]] are modified with metal or metal oxides.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the graphite electrodes which are used, ~~which~~ are modified with holmium or scandium or their oxides.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the graphite electrodes which are used, ~~which~~ are modified with metal or
metal oxides and a nitrogen-containing substance.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~own 9, characterized in~~
~~that~~, wherein the graphite electrodes which are used, ~~which~~ are modified with metal
cyanamide, ~~preferably with calcium cyanamide or lead cyanamide.~~

11. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the graphite electrodes which
are used are modified with calcium cyanamide or lead cyanamide.